English 2332,02 / .04
Exam 1 / *Gilgamesh*
February 6, 2018

A. (40 questions at 2 points each)

Deep Background:

-- four characteristics of an epic

Background:

--the modern nation in which Mesopotamia located

--meaning of “Mesopotamia”

--cuneiform writing

--meaning of Gilgamesh’s name

--Sin-Leqi-Unninni

--first to translate the epic into English

--why that translation caused an immediate sensation

The Text:

--the mother of Gilgamesh [Tablet I]

==and his father

--his proportions (divine and human)

--his city

--his behavior in that city likened to that of an animal

--Anu, God of the ____

--Aruru, Goddess of _____

--first human to see Enkidu (no name, profession only)

--whom Gilgamesh sends to “tame” Endiku

--Enkidu’s first “human” meal—something to eat, something to drink [II]

--a notable service to the his shepherd-hosts

--where the two heroes meet for the first time (Hint: “Enkidu blocked the door.”)

--how Enkidu and Gilgamesh become “brothers”

--an admonition from the elders as Gilgamesh sets out on his quest for Humbaba [III]

--where Humbaba dwells

--on the journey outward, what Enkidu makes of Gilgamesh’s series of frightening dreams [IV]

--how Shamash disadvantages Humbaba when the heroes face the monster [V]

--two trophies from taken home from the victory over the monster

--how those trophies are conveyed to the city

Ishtar, Goddess of _____ [VI]

--fate of her shepherd-lover

--fate of her gardener-lover

--whom (or what) she persuades Anu to loose against the city

--how one hundred, then two hundred are swallowed up

--how Endiku and Gilgamesh successfully double-team that monster

--how Enkidu insults Ishtar

--the evening of the victory over the Bull: first a celebration, then a _____ [last lines of Tablet
VI]

--the two whom Enkidu curses as he lies dying [VII, lines 50+]

--Shamash's address to Enkidu then

--Gilgamesh to the artists and craftsmen of his city: "Make an _____ of my friend." (VIII, 62)

--meaning of Utanapishtim's name [IX]

--Old Testament personality to whom Utanapishtim is often compared

--guardians of the twin peaks

--strange 'forest" just beyond the tunnel of darkness

--the advice given to Gilgamesh by Siduri, the tavern-keeper [X]

--fate of the Stone Charms

Ur-Shanabi's service to Gilgamesh

----how the raven revealed that the flood was over [XI]

--where the plant that gives eternal life is located

--how Gilgamesh retrieves it that plant

--and how he loses it

--as the epic ends / Gilgamesh as a proud tour guide

One more textual issue: Why the authenticity of Tablet XII is doubted.

Quotations (Sequenced here, but not on the exam):

“Let [Aruru} create a partner for Gilgamesh. “ / the speaker

“Gilgamesh [is] the joy-woe man. / the speaker

“You and I shall kill him / And wipe out evil from the land.” / the identity of “him”

“Well now, did you not provoke the king, Gilgamesh?” / speaker

“Make every day a delight.” / speaker

“You strive ceaselessly, what do you gain?” / speaker

B. (20 points / 150-200 words)) You’ll be asked to summarize one of the three “acts” of *Gilgamesh*:

If “”Act One” (Gilgamesh against Enkidu) is the assignment, you should speak of these matters:

=why Enkdu is needed
--how Enkdu comes to town
--where the heroes meet
--the fight and its immediate aftermath

If your class draws “Act Two” (Gilgamesh with Enkidu}, you should speak of at least four of these matters:

--how the friends become brothers
--the journey outward: Enkidu’s reactions to Gilgamesh’s dreams
--the encounter: how Shamash intervenes
--the death of Humbaba
--the taking of trophies

If you have to write about “Act III” (Gilgamesh without Enkidu), you should speak of at least four of these matters:

--the encounter with the Scorpion Monsters
--the “Tunnel of Darkness” (as it was called in class)
--the encounter with Siduri
--the plant of eternal life won and lost
--to whom and of what Gilgamesh speaks at the end of the epic